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Turin, Febr. 24. N. S.

THE French making great Preparations at *Cazal, Verceil*, and other Places on this side, against the next Campaign, all possible Care is taken here, by the repairing of our Fortifications, and adding new Works to them, the filling of our Magazines, and reinforcing our Garrison, to disappoint any Design the Enemy might have upon this Place; and for our better Security, his Royal Highness has given Directions for the making of several Redoubts on the Hill of the *Capuchins* near this City. Great Diligence is also used in fortifying the Towns of *Asti* and *Quiers*, which will soon be put into a very good Condition of Defence. The Recruits which the Enemy expect from France come but slowly, and do generally consist of Men very unable to bear the Fatigues of a Campaign in this Country, and who are very watchful of all Opportunities to desert, most of them having been forced into the Service. Two French Battalions that were marching this way from *Chambery* are countermanded; and it is said they will be sent towards *Roussillon*, together with a Regiment of Dragoons which is quartered on that side.

Rome, Febr. 27. The Duke of *Anjou* having nominated a Person to succeed in a Prebend which is become vacant in *Catalonia*, Cardinal *Fanson* solicited the Pope to grant the necessary Bulls for that purpose; but Monsieur *Cawitz*, who manages the Emperor's Affairs here, has entred a Protest against it. Signior *Davia*, the Pope's Nuntio to the Emperor, has obtained Leave to return hither, and we do not yet hear of any one appointed to succeed him; from whence some make Conjectures, that the Differences with that Court are not likely to be soon accommodated. A Business has lately happened which may probably engage us in new Disputes: Here are some Churches belonging to Foreigners, as that named *Dell' Anima* to the *Germans*, that of *St. James* to the *Spaniards*, and that of *St. Lewis* to the *French*, which have considerable Revenues that were bequeathed to them at several times by particular Persons, either for the Support of their Clergy, or the Maintenance of their Poor. The Pope being informed that a great part of this Money given them for Charitable Uses was misapplied, gave Orders for the visiting of those Churches; but the Clergy who have the Care of them looking upon this as an Infracti^on of their Privileges, refused to admit the Visitors; whereupon their Revenues have been sequestred, and are to continue so till they submit. The Foreign Ministers make great Complaints of this Proceeding; and this Matter has been the Occasion of several extraordinary Congregati^ons of the Cardinals, and of the sending Expresses to the Courts of those Nations to which the Churches

belong, with Representations concerning the Pope's Conduct on this Occasion. The Body of Pope *Alexander* the Eighth was on the 18th Instant carried in great State from the Place where it was deposited to the Church of *St. Peter*, and there interred under a very magnificent Monument, erected to his Memory by Cardinal *Ottoboni*, and his other Nephews. Cardinal *Fanson* being made Great Almoner of France, in the room of the Cardinal de *Coassin*, is upon his Departure thither. The Cardinal *d'Arquein* was seized last night with an Apopleckick Fit, and is not yet out of Danger; nor is it probable, considering his very great Age, that he should recover. His Death would make the 21st Vacancy in the College of Cardinals.

Milan, March 6. The Dutchess of *Mantua*, who has resided here some time, parted from hence lately for *Mantua*. The Prince and Princess of *Vaudemont* accompanied her Highness as far as *Cremona*, and are since returned hither. Orders are given for cloathing the Recruits raised this Winter for the Troops that are kept on foot by this Government. The French have lately received a considerable number of Recruits from France, which are not yet sufficient to compleat their Regiments. They are fortifying their Posts along the *Po*, the *Adige*, and the *Mincio*, and are making new Lines and Intrenchments along the *Oglio*, in order to prevent the Imperial Army's advancing that way; which, after it has been joined by the considerable Reinforcements that are expected from *Germany*, will be able to make a very powerful Diversion of the French Forces, and will in all probability put a stop to their Progresses against the Duke of *Savoy*. The French have lately reinforced their Troops at *Dezenzano* and along the *Mincio*, being jealous that the Imperialists have some important Design in view, their Troops being lately become very numerous in the *Veronese*, where they have erected a great Magazine of Hay, and are making other Preparations for their taking the Field early in the Spring. The Senate of *Venice* has issued Commissions for the making of new Levies, and will have very strong Garisons this Summer in all the Towns belonging to that State in *Terra-Firma*. The French have dissolved the Senate of *Nice*, and wholly changed the Form of the Government of that City. They are demolishing its Castle, and the Materials with which it was built are carried to *Antibes*, to be made use of in repairing and augmenting the Fortifications of that Place.

Haguenau, March 12. A great number of French Prisoners of War have lately been sent from hence to *Strasbourg*, to be exchanged for so many *Germans*. A Regiment of the Forces of *Wolfenbuttle*, which lay at *Bischweyler*, is marched from thence towards *Wolfenbuttle*, having been relieved the 10th Instant by the Regiment of *Anspach*. The Imperial Forces which were quartered in the Bishoprick of *Spire* are marching